

JW S. 1997  
30 Aug 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Effects on the Economy of North Vietnam  
of the Bombings of Petroleum Storage  
Sites -- Week Ending 24 August 1966

1. The attached memorandum was prepared on 25 August in response to an urgent telephonic request by DIA. It reflects consultations with representatives of DD/P and OCI. The request stems from a requirement for DIA to cover this subject in its contribution to a weekly briefing of the JCS (Friday) and the Secretary of Defense (Monday). A letter is on its way to you requesting that we supply this information weekly.

2. We were given only a few hours notice and the attached is necessarily cryptic. The following information, not included in the memorandum, is well known to DIA:

A. The total consumption of petroleum in North Vietnam is estimated to be only about 500 tons per day.

B. Consumption in direct and indirect support of military activities is about 55 percent of the total. Civil transport accounts for an estimated 32 percent of consumption, and industry, agriculture and households for only 13 percent.

C. It is tentatively estimated that, as of 20 August, North Vietnam had on hand petroleum supplies sufficient for about 40 days. Moreover, stocks in China for North Vietnamese

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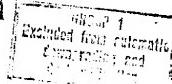
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WILLIAM N. MORELL, JR.  
Director  
Research and Reports

Attachment

Memorandum (S-1997)

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25 August 1966

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Effects on the Economy of North Vietnam of the  
Bombings of Petroleum Storage Sites -- Week  
Ending 24 August 1966

1. There is as yet no evidence that the loss of petroleum or petroleum storage and distribution facilities, as a result of the bombings of North Vietnam that began in late June, has had a measurable effect on the economy of North Vietnam through 24 August 1966. There has been no evidence of shortages of petroleum or of dislocations in any sectors of the economy attributable to the loss of petroleum or petroleum facilities. Efforts to supply petroleum to North Vietnam have not been characterized by any air of urgency.

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